

The Easley Messenger.

A. W. HUDGENS, } Editors.
J. R. HAGOOD, }

EASLEY, S. C., DEC. 7, 1883.

[From the Greenville News.]

A Card From "Sigma"

THE EASLEY MESSENGER is not a very large newspaper. It is about the size of a common pocket handkerchief, and does not seem to set the country afire with its brilliancy, but it seems to have ill-humor enough for the "New York Herald."

Did you ever notice, Mr. Editor, that a big Newfoundland can take a joke with good nature and dignity while a small terrier of the bench leg variety is forever snapping and snarling at whoever approaches him?

THE MESSENGER upsets its very small vial of wrath on me because I very innocently and good naturedly called attention to a ridiculous error in its church notices by which it made the Sunday school services begin at 9½ p. m. I did not think the matter important enough to demand the signing of my name in full, and I don't see yet that it requires the solemnity of an order of court to give it force.

If THE MESSENGER can't stand having a little fun made of its errors, it should be more careful in proof reading.

Respectfully

"SIGMA."

(Whose full name is known all over Pickens County.)

His name we presume is George Washington Singleton. A man and yet not a man in the true sense of the word—who, has received as his rich heritage the time-honored name, of "The Father of our Country," has more than once proven his own unworthiness to bear that name, while he has so unscrupulously sacrificed principle to self-aggrandizement, on the blazing altars of an apparently treacherous heart. He, "in his half-acre of existence," with stupendous efforts trying to tell, what might be, a wise and an unwise world, of the paramount importance of "Big I," has through his recent letter to the "Greenville News," failed ignominiously to establish such a conviction in the minds of those who know him well. Vain, ah vain, will the Newfoundland howls of "Sigma" be, if he hopes by them to establish an enviable name throughout his native County. The days of his "pristine glory" were few. They disappeared with revolving years, and the present finds him in spite of his great exertions, a poor victim, "lying" impatiently on his back, and hugging the delusive phantom of hope, that at some day he will rise a "giant in his strength" to achieve that notoriety in his own County for which he has so long been laboring. Away from home, he might as well "wend his way" to work for honor and renown.

Well, with the above prelude annexed to a few remarks in direct

reply to "Sigma's" letter, we will answer him in the terms of his own argument. We will pierce him with the bayonet which he thrusts at us, and shear him with the scissors of his own hand. Notwithstanding the fact, that

We are the terrier dogs of noise,

The bench species in Sigma's sight;
And he, c'mine of New-found-land

Resisting with his might,

The snarls and snaps that to him sound

Undignified, at least,

We'll make him think before we're done,

There's something in the beasts.

'Tis true the terrier dogs are small when compared to a dignified Newfoundland, and THE MESSENGER is diminutive when placed alongside the "New York Herald," but at the same time there is another truth which 'stares us in the face' and it is this: THE MESSENGER is sufficiently ample to measure Mr. Singleton's would-be huge proportions, and to tell the story of his futile life. He does not require the journalistic labor of a score of years to declare his depths, the vivid imagination of a Milton to depict his worth, or the universal knowledge of a Shakspeare to give the world a slight account of his "touching intellect" and 'transcendent genius,' but the representatives of THE MESSENGER, who are unable to set the world afire with their brilliancy, could, comparatively speaking, in a short space of time produce a disquisition on many of the phases of his reproachable character.

Does he know what his reputation is at home? He is a man that snaps and snarls and makes the business of others his business. A man that attempts to act a conspicuous part in 'the grand drama of life,' when he is only fit to act the part of a curtain-roller. Let the "Greenville News" and the readers thereof, mark well this fact, that "Sigma," "whose real name" is George Washington Singleton, is too well known in Pickens County to enlist any special amount of sympathy on his side; and that in getting an Order from the Court to lend solemnity to his "facile pen," would be of little consequence in turning the minds of a sensible people to the act of reverencing a man who is as far removed, generally, from reverential consideration as the mountains are from the sea-board. And before this grand end is effected he must "innocently and good-naturedly" withdraw from the position of dictator, and occupy that place in life to which his talent assigns him.

JUNIOR EDITOR.

—The Political Trials were fairly opened in Columbia on Saturday, Jan. A. Mitchell being arraigned before a jury composed entirely of Greenbackers, and Republicans with John Agnew ex Greenback candidate, of Columbia, foreman. Every Democrat was made to "stand aside," J. W. Rector, this county, was challenged by the defence and excluded. Judge Bryan dissented from Bond's decision in the "stand aside" matter, which makes it certain that the prisoner can not be imprisoned before the appeal which will be taken to the U. S. Supreme Court, if he is found guilty, is heard. The talking of evidence began yesterday. —Greenville News.

—Capt. Kirk, and his corps of engineers have staked out the Greenville and Laurens Railroad to a point on William Goldsmith's place. The road is to cross the middle of Green's place and on a trestle which will be about two hundred feet from the dam. The road will then take the side of the hill beyond and go on to Laurel Creek. The road starts near the Fair Grounds, passes through E. Stone's land and thence to the pond as stated. —Greenville News.

—Senator Ferguson, of Laurens, has been admitted to practice in the U. S. Courts.

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Nov 2-tf

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Oct 12-12m